

MINUTES OF THE COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS HISTORIC COMMITTEE HELD

MARCH 8, 2017, 6:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sylvia Orton, Gayle Conger, Carol Woodside, Jerri Harwell, Max Evans,
Don Antczak

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Joyce Wilson, Melinda Hortin

OTHERS PRESENT: Mike Peterson, City Councilman, Allen Erikson, Kevin Sato, Dan Metcalf

Max Evans opened the meeting at 6:00 P.M. Dan Metcalf, Public Relations Specialist, and Kevin Sato, GIS Specialist, were introduced. Mr. Evans asked two questions, first, can additional historic information be added on the site and can we tie in with the GIS to include our listing of historic buildings.

Mr. Metcalf mentioned that he is also the writer /editor of the City's monthly newsletter. He pulled up our homepage on the City website, making several corrections on the committee members. He indicated that he needs the pictures of Joyce and Melinda. He will add the new "Then and Now" addition to our homepage.

Gayle Conger asked that there be an archive of all the Historic Questions & Answers. Mr. Metcalf indicated that he would need to go back several years but that it could be done. The committee members felt like that would be a good thing to have on our site. It would allow students, teachers, and others that are interested in history, access to this information. The committee would also like the entire wordage used on the master page, but when the question & answer is used on the newsletter it could be edited down. Mr. Evans indicated that this information could easily be used as a collection of historical short stories of the past. Mr. Metcalf will take care of this request and also make a link from our page to the "Then & Now" GIS map as well as adding the locations of the list of historic buildings.

Allen B. Erikson was introduced to the committee. His name will be presented to the City Council at their meeting on March 14, 2017 for approval. Once approved, his name will be added to our web page.

Mr. Metcalf also indicated that he would like photos of people mentioned in our "Historic Questions & Answers." Permission will be needed to publish the photos.

Mr. Kevin Sato has been working with Ms. Conger on an interactive historic map. He feels that there needs to be an introduction page associated with the map so there is some historic content. There is an overlay that can be moved back and forth showing the area as it was and as it is now. You are able to zoom in and out. Mr. Sato located the area where the Erikson's fur farm was located. The homes built on the farm are still standing, three on Stone Road and the fourth on the hill above. The interactive map is from the mid 1940's and a compilation of three maps.

You can click on the map and with the help of Ms. Conger the person who owned the patent for the property comes up. There is also a copy of the patent. Mr. Sato has prepared information explaining the Act which allowed for the patents.

Mr. Peterson wants Mr. Sato to take this information to the Council, he is sure they will be amazed at what has been accomplished.

Mr. Sato can also add any photos we have of the properties. The three properties on the National Registry can be added now along with the photos and information associated with each. In the future, the 16 buildings that have been identified as historic sites can be added. These homes were all built prior to 1953. We presently have their photos and addresses.

Mr. Sato is also working on adding sequences of the subdivisions as they were built and also a list of historic events that happened in the country at that time.

Mike Peterson reported that we have one additional spot on our committee. The City has received an application to fill this position and he will be interviewed by our city manager.

Our storage area will soon be ready for our use.

Gayle Conger asked that a sub-committee be formed to come up with some recommendations for changes to our city ordinances on site and landmark registration. Carol Woodside will chair this sub-committee, along with Allen Erikson, and Gayle Conger. Mike Peterson will serve as liaison.

The committee wants to use the interactive maps in their display at Butlerville Days. "hot spots" would be needed if internet access was not available but this could be possible. The City would be willing to help set this up.

Sylvia Orton explained that along with a display which would include the new interactive map as well as the enlarged maps we already have will be displayed. The 16 historic homes will also be used. We can use the "Then & Now" used for the interactive maps as our theme for 2017. Our first BVD committee meeting will be tomorrow night.

Immediately after this meeting the book committee will meet with Allen Rogers. Other members of the committee are welcome to stay.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 P.M.